

In re: Jason C. H. Shih et al.
Application No.: 10/661,172
Filed: September 13, 2003
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In the Claims:

1. (Original) A method of making a keratinase, comprising:
 - (a) culturing a recombinant *Bacillus* in a media, said recombinant *Bacillus* having at least one heterologous *kerA* coding segment inserted into the chromosome thereof, with said recombinant *Bacillus* producing greater quantities of keratinase than a corresponding wild-type *Bacillus* that does not have said at least one heterologous *kerA* coding segment inserted into the genome thereof; and then
 - (b) collecting said keratinase from said media.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said media comprises not more than 3% protein substrate.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said media comprises 1% soy and 1% feather meal.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said *Bacillus* is selected from the group consisting of *Bacillus licheniformis* and *Bacillus subtilis*.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said *Bacillus* is *Bacillus licheniformis*.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said *kerA* coding segment is a *Bacillus licheniformis* or *Bacillus subtilis* *kerA* coding segment.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said *kerA* coding segment is a *Bacillus licheniformis* *kerA* coding segment.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said corresponding wild-type *Bacillus* is *Bacillus licheniformis* PWD-1.

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9. (Original) The method of claim 1, said recombinant *Bacillus* having a plurality of said heterologous *kerA* coding segment inserted into the chromosome thereof.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, said recombinant *Bacillus* having from 3 to 5 of said heterologous *kerA* coding segment inserted into the chromosome thereof.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said recombinant *Bacillus* is a protease-deficient *Bacillus*.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said *kerA* coding segment is operatively associated with a constitutive promoter.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said *kerA* coding segment is operatively associated with a P43 promoter.

14.-30. (Canceled)